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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: **Michael R. Treat et al.** Group: 3739  
Serial No.: 09/839,988 Examiner: Lee S. Cohen  
Filing Date: April 20, 2001 Confirmation No.: 3108  
For: **ELECTROTHERMAL DEVICE FOR COAGULATING, SEALING  
AND CUTTING TISSUE DURING SURGERY**

July 3, 2003

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

S I R:

The enclosed Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS") is submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 197 and 1.98, and it is requested that the information set forth in this statement and in the listed documents be considered during the pendency of the above-identified application, and any other application relying on the filing date of the above-identified application or cross-referencing it as a related application.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 forms PTO-1449 are attached hereto. Copies of the documents cited were made available in parent U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/374,563.

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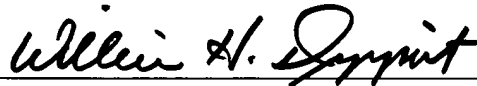
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The filing of this IDS should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b), or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the item and Applicants reserve the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

A check in the amount of \$180.00 as the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.99(e) is also enclosed.

Respectfully submitted



William H. Dippert  
Reg. No. 26,723

Reed Smith LLP  
599 Lexington Avenue  
29<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10022-7650  
Tel: 212-521-5400; Fax: 212-521-5450